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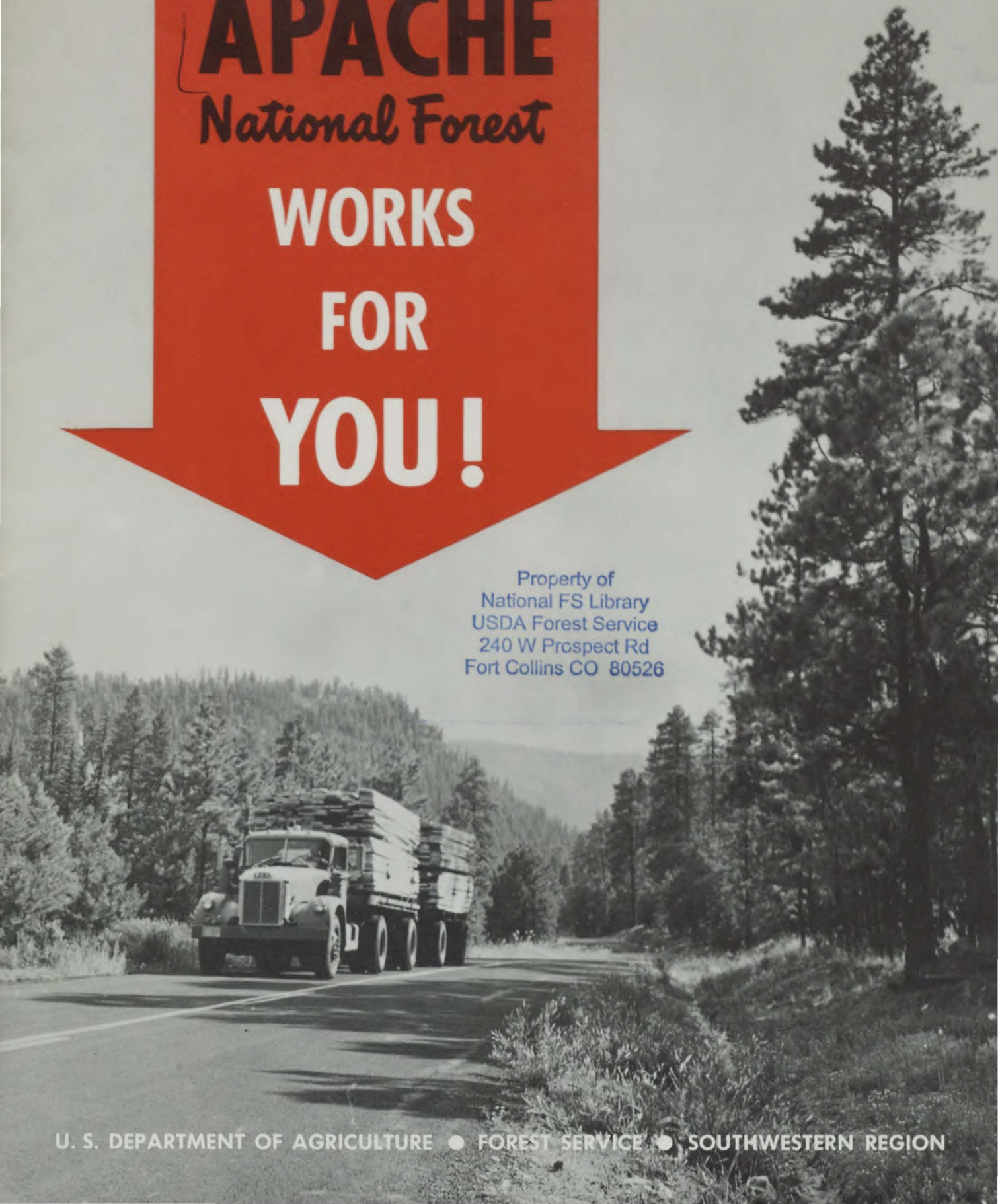
THE APACHE National Forest WORKS FOR YOU!



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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ● FOREST SERVICE ● SOUTHWESTERN REGION

Sawlogs being "decked" prior to loading.

TIMBER

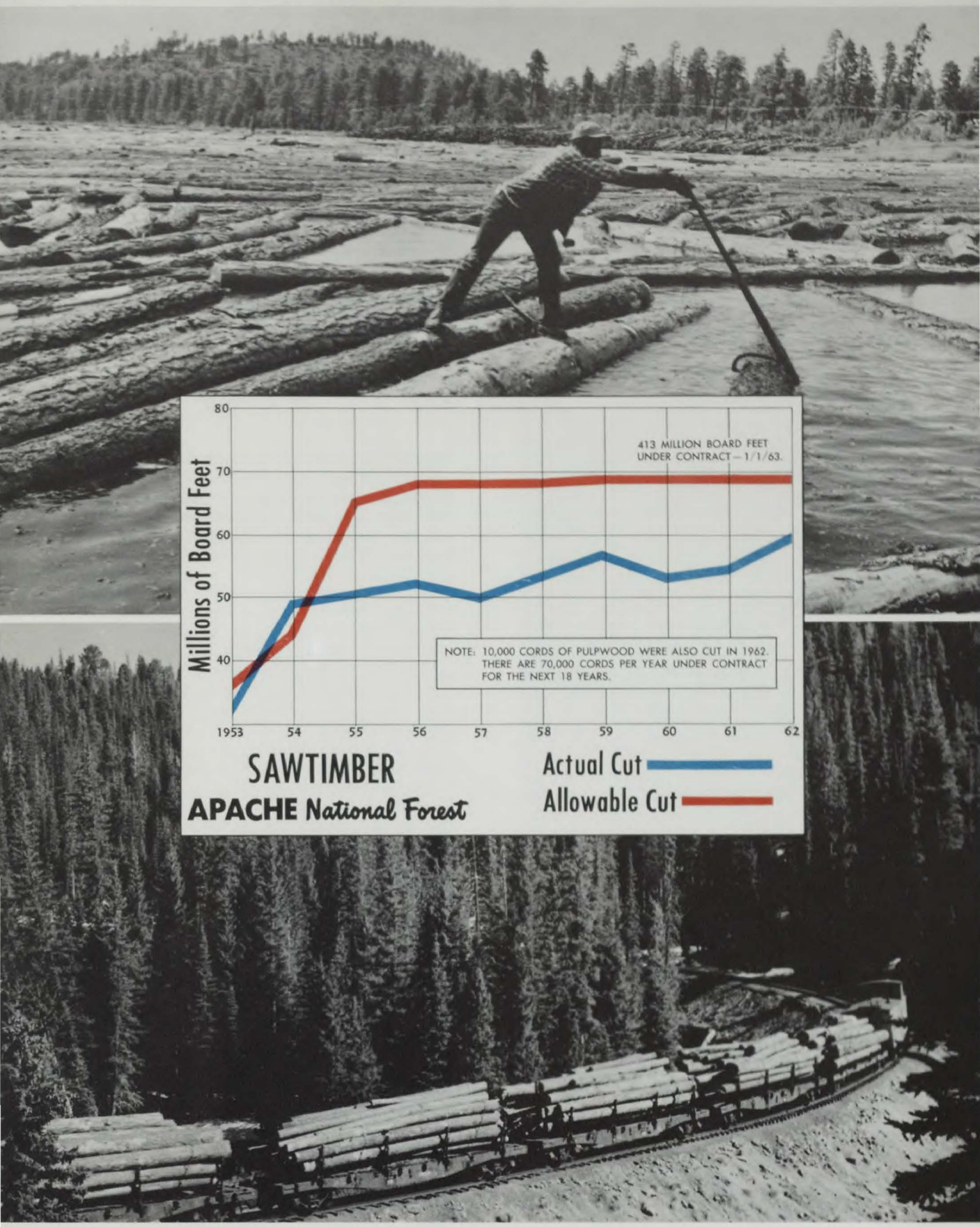
The pine, spruce, and fir forests of the Apache are capable of providing an annual cut of 69,000,000 board feet of timber on a sustained yield basis. However, due to poor lumber markets, the actual cut during the past few years has averaged about 50 million board feet annually. In 1962, the Apache furnished 10,000 cords of pulpwood for the Southwest Forest Industries' paper mill and the anticipated cut for 1963 is expected to reach 50,000 cords. This new enterprise has not only been a boon to the economy of Arizona but it is enabling the practice of more intensive forest management on the Apache National Forest. Thinning out thick, crowded stands of timber permits the remaining trees to grow faster but, in addition, it opens the forest to sun and this stimulates growth of many kinds of vegetation beneficial to wildlife and livestock. Watershed conditions are also improved because opening up of the stands allows more snow and rain to reach the ground. This is a good example of "Multiple Use Management in Action!"

Woods and sawmill operations on the Apache now furnish employment for more than 375 people. The opening up of the last stand of virgin timber on the Apache in the vicinity of Black River and the Mogollon Rim will also provide additional employment opportunities. In order to harvest this timber crop, good roads are being constructed by both the Forest Service and the timber operators. Cost of roads constructed by the operator are figured in the timber appraisal and the total stumpage price paid by the purchaser is reduced by that amount. In addition to getting the timber resource under management, these roads are opening up additional areas to hunting, fishing, and camping.

Much of the Black River area is in the mixed-conifer type. Where individual tree selection is not practical, these timber stands will be cut under a patch or block system and the clear-cut patches will be selected so as not to impair scenic values.

On all National Forest timber sales, practices are required which will reduce the fire hazard created by slash. This includes piling and burning especially along roads and where fuel concentrations are heavy. After spur roads have served their purpose, they are drained, "put to bed" and seeded. This not only helps to prevent soil erosion, but also provides supplemental food for game and domestic livestock. During the next decade, major timber management work needed to be done on the Apache includes thinning of 31,000 acres and reforestation of 1,000 acres.

Southwest Forest Industries' mill pond at McNary, Arizona.



Log train heads for sawmill at McNary, Arizona.

Lee Valley Hay Lake, one of many reservoirs on the Apache for water storage and recreation.

Burro Mountain weir.

A weir being constructed on a high open grassland watershed to measure water yield where there is no timber or brush cover.

WATER

The Apache National Forest encompasses some of the highest water-producing land in the state of Arizona. Accordingly, management is directed at producing the maximum possible amounts of clear, useable water consistent with the needs and uses of the other resources.

Since 1910, improving water yields from the National Forests has been a primary concern of Forest Service research in watershed management. At the left is a picture of a clear-cut patch of timber on Burro Mountain where different cutting practices in mixed-confier are being tried to determine their effect on water yield and on the re-establishment of trees. The purpose of these studies is to increase water yield as well as assure sustained timber production. In addition, opening up these dense stands of timber to sunlight stimulates increased growth of many plants that provide food for both wildlife and livestock. In areas where experimental cuttings are being made, weirs have been constructed so that water measurements can be taken before and after timber cutting. Eventually, these studies will furnish guides for future management of the National Forest.

WATERSHED RESTORATION

Where watersheds have been damaged in the past, the Forest Service is taking positive action to correct these unsatisfactory conditions. On the Apache, in 1962, treatment of critical watersheds to retard erosion was completed on 3,500 acres. Contour ditches were constructed and arroyo banks stabilized and reseeded. However, there is still a big job to be done on the Apache in rehabilitation of old abandoned roads and other erosion areas.

Successful fishermen at Big Lake.

WILDLIFE

The Apache National Forest is known far and wide for its fine hunting and fishing. This is borne out by the fact that there were 15,600 hunter visits and 243,000 fishermen visits recorded in 1962. Sportsmen are coming to the Apache in increasing numbers each year and they are making a sizeable contribution to the economy of both Arizona and New Mexico.

The Forest Service and the State Game Departments of Arizona and New Mexico and the U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife continue to work together to improve game and fish habitat on the National Forest and to keep wildlife and fish populations in balance with available food supplies. It is just as essential to provide a sustained annual harvest of game and fish as it is to manage timber and range for sustained yield. During recent years, some areas of the Apache have been opened for "any deer and elk" hunting when their populations exceeded the available food. Over-use of key forage plants results in lower vigor of the plants themselves and fewer numbers of game animals. If over-use is permitted to continue for any length of time, the plants eventually die out and loss of much wildlife from starvation becomes a fact of life. A number of western states have actually had this sad and unnecessary experience.

Reports of hunter success on the Apache during the 1962 season are not yet completed, but preliminary indications are that despite an extremely dry hunting season and several thousand more hunters, the ratio of hunter success was still better than average.

Several water developments for small game and 35 stream improvement structures were built during 1962. The assignment of a wildlife management staffman on the Apache in 1962 will help the Forest to carry out the intensive habitat improvement program set up for the next decade. The program includes planting food and cover on 15,000 acres, creating 2,000 acres of wildlife openings where the cover is presently too dense, improving 44 miles of stream for fish habitat, and constructing many water developments.

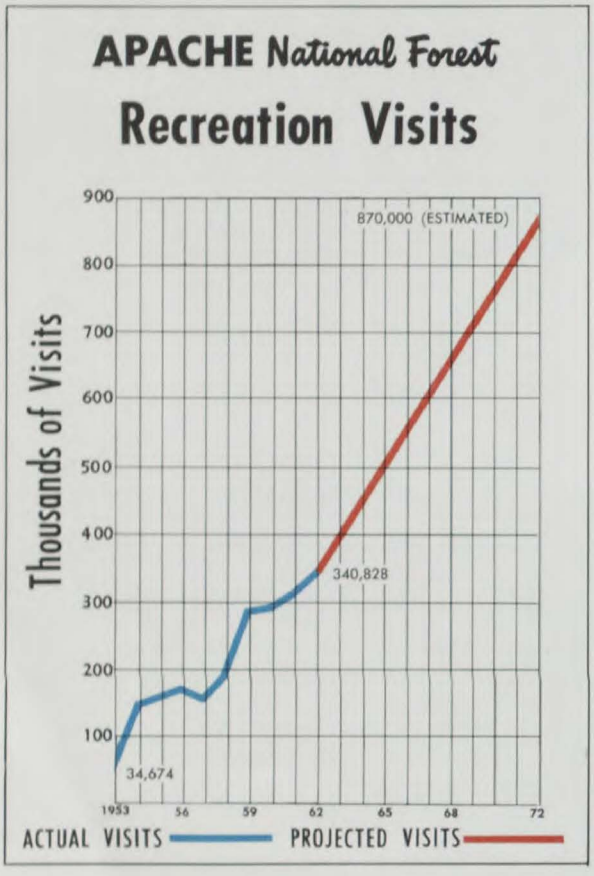
Forest Service and State Game Department biologists check utilization of browse by deer and elk.

Whitetailed deer (above) and Rocky Mountain mule deer are found on the Apache.

Relaxed fishing on one of the many beautiful streams on the Apache.

Forest Naturalist (right) and Forest Ranger greet proud fishermen at Big Lake.

OUTDOOR RECREATION



There are many reasons why the Apache National Forest is fast becoming one of the most popular recreation areas in Arizona with a record 341,000 visits posted in 1962. Improved highways are making it easily accessible from the population centers in the desert as well as nearby states. Cool summer days, beautiful high-country scenery, and some of the best trout fishing in the Southwest are the magnets which are attracting increasing thousands of people to the Apache each year. Nine lakes and 250 miles of sparkling streams like the Black and Little Colorado Rivers are a joy to the angler, and deer, antelope, elk, and bear furnish good sport for hunters in season. Outdoor recreation is the fastest growing National Forest use and the Apache is making every effort to keep pace with the skyrocketing demand. In 1962, the bulk of the available funds was concentrated on improving and expanding Big Lake Campground. A boat ramp, 14 camping units, 1.6 miles of road construction, sanitary facilities, picnic units, and traffic barriers were some of the improvements made at this site. Other areas are scheduled for similar treatment at an early date.

We feel that your attention should be called to the serious "litterbug" problem that exists on the Apache National Forest. The Forest Service spent over $21,000.00 last year in cleaning up messes left at both improved and unimproved

Campers at Alpine Divide.

campgrounds by careless or indifferent Americans. Of course, it is recognized that some maintenance of recreation sites is necessary, but most of the $21,000.00 expended in 1962 was used to cover the cost of picking up and hauling away discarded beer cans, tin cans, newspapers, gum and candy bar wrappers, cardboard boxes, and other trash. With additional National Forest recreation improvements needed so badly, it's a shame that money that could be used for new construction has to be diverted to pick up after people who have no consideration for their fellow men.

We appreciate the fact that we are talking about a minority group and know that the vast majority of recreationists are considerate and do not litter up the National Forest. Our sincere thanks to you folks who are tidy and who leave their camping unit in as good or in better shape than they found it. We earnestly request the cooperation of all recreationists in helping us to keep the Apache clean and beautiful. Also, please remind others — "Don't Be A Litterbug!"

The graph on the preceding page shows that by 1972 there will be an estimated one million recreation visits to the Apache National Forest. To take care of this demand, the Apache has prepared a development program which will provide the accommodations needed by the American people in the next ten years. The proposed recreation facilities will cost about $4,800,000 in addition to $663,000 for the construction of recreation roads.

The Accelerated Public Works Program, started in October of 1962, is enabling the Apache to speed up its recreation development program and work has already begun on a new campground at Greer Lake.

A typical string of trout taken at Big Lake.

THE NATIONAL FORESTS ... America's Playgrounds

Some of the finest cattle in the Southwest are found on Apache National Forest ranges.

Sheepherder and his flock in the Greens Peak country.

RANGE

Forage is another valuable product of the Apache National Forest and one that is essential to the stability of the local livestock industry. In 1962, 27,800 cattle and 7,000 sheep owned by 312 ranchers grazed the Apache under paid permit. These animals converted forage from the National Forest into 6 million pounds of beef and 475,000 pounds of lamb; a sizeable contribution to America's food supply.

One of the Apache's principal management objectives is to make National Forest ranges produce the maximum amount of forage on a sustained yield basis. To further this aim, accomplishments last year included reseeding of 5,000 acres, construction of 35 miles of fences and additional stock waters and corrals. Fences and watering places are important factors in obtaining good distribution of the livestock and proper utilization of the forage resource.

A special effort is being made to place all Apache National Forest range allotments under good, practical management. The Hall Cattle Allotment on the Springerville Ranger District is an outstanding example of what can be accomplished when grazing permittees and Forest officers work together. On this allotment, needed fences and water developments were built on a cooperative basis and a system of rest-rotation-deferred grazing management put into effect. So far, this system has worked out to the satisfaction of both the permittees and the Forest Service. In fact, the results have been so encouraging that this allotment was inspected last summer by the New Mexico National Forests Permittees' Grazing Advisory Board.

In order to bring Apache National Forest ranges up to their maximum potential, it is planned during the next ten years to reseed 28,000 acres of over-used ranges, and to build 318 miles of fence and 154 water developments.

In order to better acquaint the public with the work of the Apache and its many recreational attractions, a special 4-color map has been prepared and can be obtained from the Forest Supervisor, Post Office Building, Springerville, Arizona, or District Forest Ranger offices located at Alpine, Clifton, and Springerville, Arizona, and at Luna and Quemado in New Mexico. In addition, the Blue Range Primitive Area Hunters' Map and a colorful Apache National Forest auto sticker decal are also available at the above locations.

SPECIAL USES

There are over 400 special use permits on the Apache National Forest covering a wide variety of land uses such as community water systems, schools, cemeteries, commercial resorts, summer homes, telephone lines, and radio and television antenna sites. There is a large demand for such uses on the Apache and, before permits are issued, the applications are carefully analyzed to insure that the proposed uses are compatible with the other National Forest resources.

Greens Peak, a short distance west of Springerville, provides an ideal electronic installation site for many public service agencies.

ACCELERATED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAM

The Accelerated Public Works Program, signed into law by President Kennedy on September 14, 1962, is designed to help in the initiation and speed-up of state, local, and Federal Public Works projects. As a result, jobs have been provided for the unemployed and under-employed in labor surplus areas.

In November of 1962, the Area Redevelopment Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce made $144,000.00 available for work on the Apache National Forest. This provided employment for 82 men in Apache and Catron Counties on the construction of the new Quemado, New Mexico, Ranger Station and the 20-family unit Greer Lake Campground with modern rest rooms. In addition, 4 miles of range fence have been constructed on the Luna Community Cattle Allotment and 4 miles of boundary fence reconstructed on the Springerville and Alpine Ranger Districts. Timber stand improvement work was also accomplished on 200 acres of National Forest land.

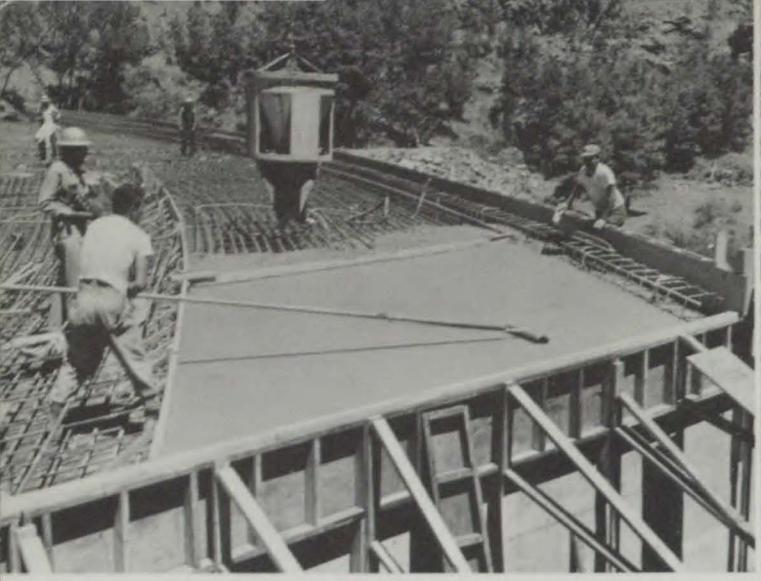
Tractor piles logging debris prior to burning to reduce fire hazard.

FIRE

The Apache National Forest experienced 224 forest fires in 1962 and 16 of them were caused by careless or unthinking people. The others were started by lightning. In spite of the number of fires, the total area burned was confined to 161 acres.

This good record was achieved because of prompt detection and fast control by our cooperators and Forest Service crews. Of course, the objective is to "hit em" while they are small and, towards this end, the Apache employs every modern fire-fighting tool available including radio communication, aerial patrol, tanker planes carrying fire retardants, helicopters and smokejumpers.

Forest fire prevention, like highway safety, is a continuing program. Although more people visited the Apache in 1962 than ever before, man-caused fires were kept to a relatively small number. This impressive record was made possible because of the fine cooperation which the Apache received from local people, permittees, loggers, recreationists, newspapers, and radio and television stations. For this splendid support, we say "many thanks" and ask your continued care with any form of fire whenever you visit *your* National Forest.



The new Black River bridge.

Forest Service crew installs a road culvert.

ROADS AND TRAILS

Well drained all-weather roads are essential to the proper management of all resources on the Apache National Forest. More than 600 miles are maintained each year by National Forest road crews in cooperation with both County and State crews. During the next ten years an average of 40 miles of new roads are to be constructed by the Forest Service and timber purchasers. Approximately 50 miles of new trails are also planned for those folks who like to hike or ride horseback.

The recently constructed bridge across the Black River and the main roads leading to the Mogollon Rim will carry many million board feet of logs and cords of pulpwood. In addition, they will also make this area more accessible for fire protection, local users, and for visiting picnickers, campers, fishermen and hunters.

NATIONAL FORESTS
Lands of many uses

SUMMARY

This brief analysis of the work that is being done on the Apache National Forest gives some indication of the contributions which it is making to the economy and welfare of the citizens in Arizona and New Mexico. Besides providing jobs for many people, the Apache also makes cash payments to those counties in which the Forest is located. These payments constitute 25% of all National Forest receipts, and in Fiscal Year 1962, Apache County received $13,287.76, Greenlee County $22,600.10, and Catron County in New Mexico was paid $17,342.32. By law, this money must be spent on county schools or roads. In addition, the Apache turned over $8,727.69 to Arizona's Common School Fund.

The Forest Service will continue in the future, as it has in the past, to manage the National Forests so as to provide the maximum overall benefits to the American public.